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The six hundred and third meeting of the Club was held at the Rembrandt Hotel, London, on 18th December, 1962.

Chairman: MAJOR-GENERAL C. B. WAINWRIGHT

Members present, 34; Guests, 13; Guest of the Club, Professor M. F. M. Micklejohn; Total, 48.

Professor Micklejohn organised an "Ornithological Quiz" in which the team of Mr. Derek Goodwin, Mr. Colin Harrison and Mr. Peter Tate defeated first that of the Chairman, Captain Charles Pitman and Mrs. Rosemary Upton and then Mrs. Diana Bradley, Miss Elizabeth Forster and Mr. Philip Hollam.

A most entertaining evening was concluded with an account of Professor Micklejohn's recent researches into the Hoodwink.

Verreaux's Eagle in Israel

by HAIM HOVEL

Received on 12th April, 1962

The range of Verreaux's Eagle *Aquila verreauxi* Lesson lies in north-east and southern Africa. Records of the species outside its regular distribution are rare and therefore of considerable interest.

Hartert mentions a specimen collected in Palestine by Schmitz.

The present note relates to an example seen by me on 19th December, 1961 at about noon soaring above the Wadi Dalam not far from the Lebanese frontier, where it was doubtless preying upon Rock Hyrax, *Procapra*.

In the field the bird appeared as a large black eagle, and its brilliant white back and rump were clearly seen as it turned in the sun; its bright yellow cere and feet were also noted. The white on the primaries was also apparent as it flew over: a good comparison of size was afforded as at the time four Griffon Vultures, *Gyps fulvus* (Hablitzl) were also in the air.

Reference:

Hartert, E. 1912-1921. *Die Vögel der Paläarkt. Fauna*, II, 1108-1109.

A new race of *Anthoscopus caroli* (Sharpe) from the Zambesi Valley

by MICHAEL P. STUART IRWIN

Received 24th April, 1962

Anthoscopus caroli rankinei, subsp. nov.

Type: ♀ adult. South bank of the Zambesi River, opposite Feira; Southern Rhodesia, on the border with Portuguese East Africa at approximately 15° 40' S., 30° 25' E. Altitude 1,350 ft. Collected by R. W. Rankine, 23rd September, 1959. In the National Museum of Southern Rhodesia. Collector's No. F.39. National Museum Registration No. 40884.

Description: Differs from *A. c. caroli* (Sharpe). *A. c. winterbottomi* White and *A. c. robertsi* Haagner, all of which have a distinctive olive wash on the mantle, in being entirely a dark slate-grey above, with a whitish, not buff frons; sides of face and ear-coverts also whitish, not buffy. The grey on the mantle is even greyer than in *A. c. sylviella* Reichenow and very considerably greyer than *A. musculus* (Hartlaub), to which it bears some superficial resemblance, especially on the under parts by being off-white, not tinged with buff; the chin, throat, breast and upper half of the abdomen being especially pale. The buffy colour on the abdomen and flanks is more restricted and pinkish in tone, though closest to *A. c. caroli*, showing little resemblance to *A. c. robertsi* which is a pale yellowish-buff, but approaching that form closely in the general paleness of the throat, chest and upper abdomen, though *A. c. robertsi* tends to have the under parts more sandy. The most striking feature of this new race is in the slate-grey of the back, though in the pallid frons, ear-coverts and in the under parts, it does not really match any of the geographically nearest populations.

Measurements of the type: Wing (flattened) 49.5; tail 29; culmen (to base of skull) 9; tarsus, 12.5 mm.

Material examined: The type and one other specimen; an adult ♂, minus the bill, obtained in the lower Mazoe valley, Southern Rhodesia, by R. H. N. Smithers as detailed below. This specimen agrees with the type in all respects and is without doubt referable to this new form. Despite the existence of only two specimens, I have no hesitation in describing this